

APPENDIX 5 - ECB FAIR PLAY MARKING CRITERIA

Although captains and umpires together set the tone for the conduct of the game, captains are at all times responsible for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as The Laws.

The Spirit of the Game requires all players to respect their opponents, their own captain and players, the role of the umpires and the game and its traditional values.

Grading Criteria

5 – Exceeds the expected standard

There are numerous examples of behaviour that exceeds the required standard in each of these groups. For example; players showing genuine warmth and congratulations to their opponents or both sides working to get the covers on/off, withdrawing an appeal to assist the umpire. These things should be recognized and where possible the reasons for the higher mark noted.

4 – Attains the expected standard

Respect for Opponents

Little or no public comments on their opponents' technique, shot making, bowling, method of dismissal etc.

Respect for Umpires

Nothing other than acceptance of umpires' decisions (doesn't exclude players asking for clarification on decisions).

Team Management

Little or no intervention required and if intervention is requested then request is enacted immediately by the captain.

Co-operation with Umpires

No need for umpires to intervene to ask the captains to do anything relating to managing an individual.

3 – Short of the expected standard

Respect for Opponents

No more than one instance of comments made about opponents or behaviour exhibited towards them that causes a reaction.

Respect for Umpires

Continued appealing or comments or behaviour that exceeds genuine disappointment when a decision goes against a player/team.

Team Management

Players slow to react and comply with captain's request for improved behaviour.

Co-operation with Umpires

No more than one instance of the umpires asking the captain to deal with an unacceptable situation.

2 – Well short of the expected standard

Respect for Opponents

When umpires are required to intervene and ask a captain to deal with players whose behaviour towards their opponents they consider unacceptable. A score at this level might result in an individual being reported under the League Disciplinary Procedure.

Respect for Umpires

Excessive and/or unnecessarily aggressive appealing and any obvious dissent when a decision goes against a player/team. A score at this level shall result in player(s) being reported under the League Disciplinary Procedure.

Team Management

Players ignoring their captain's request for improved behaviour and continuing to act as before. Captain is losing control and may be reported.

Co-operation with Umpires

More than one instance of a captain being spoken to about the same problem. The captain shall be reported under the Disciplinary Procedure.

1 – Significantly short of the expected standard

Respect for Opponents

Obvious attempts to distract or disturb the concentration of an opponent by word or action. A score at this level must result in a player/team being reported under the Disciplinary Procedure.

Respect for Umpires

Obvious attempts to intimidate the umpire and/or refusal to accept a decision. A score at this level must result in a player/team being reported under the Disciplinary Procedure.

Team Management

Players behaviour worsening rather than improving. A score at this level must result in player(s) and/or the captain being reported under the Disciplinary Procedure.

Co-operation with Umpires

Multiple instances of the captain being spoken to and/or not acting as requested. A score at this level must result in the captain being reported under the Disciplinary Procedure.

0 – Severely compromised the umpires’ ability to continue

Any score of 0 should be regarded as totally unacceptable and would result from behaviour worse than that identified above. Any score of 0 shall be reported immediately to the General Manager and it is clear that a number of people, including the captain, will be reported under the Disciplinary Procedure.

Fair Play evaluation commences from the time the umpires arrive at the ground until the time they leave. It includes pre-match discussions. It includes issues related to ground, weather and light and the readiness of sides to get started and re-started. It includes all issues that take place during the game, both on and off the field of play and any that might linger on in the period after the game has finished. Umpires shall consider all aspects of their involvement with the captains and the teams in preparing their marks. Umpires have different tolerance levels for many issues but they all need to have a clear recognition of what is, and is not, acceptable and to ensure the captains and players understand this. A quiet word should not, in general, constitute grounds for a mark lower than 4 but unless this is appropriately responded to, a second quiet word should!